

Linton Scrapbook 1897 to 1990
Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers
summarised by
Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at bit.ly/CambsCollection

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the 1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – www.mikepetty.org.uk for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2017

Linton Scrapbook

1897 08 14

Most people who have made the voyage to the Cape have become familiar with the huge bird known as the Albatross and the only one known to have reached Great Britain alive has recently been captured by a farm labourer in the parish of Linton. Mr Travis, the well-known naturalist of Bury St Edmund's purchased the bird, and it will no doubt find a home in a large private museum. It is probably the most interesting capture ever known in East Anglian bird lore.

1897 11 27

At Saffron Walden County Court John Maris, saddler, Linton, sought to recover from George Housden, dealer, damages to his garden by defendant's fowls. Plaintiff stated that 20 roods of growing crops had been damaged. Lettuce plants, barley, peas and other things were spoiled. The fowls were on the ground a dozen at a time. Defendant said the fowls had never been on the garden. There was a quick-set fence through which there were gaps. His Honour : Do you mean to say that your fowls were so virtuous that when they made the holes in the hedge they would not go through. Defendant said he brought his fowls up so that they would not go on. He swore that the fowls had not done damage that would cover the prick of a needle. His Honour considered the claim of L1.6s.0d was not exaggerated and gave judgement for the plaintiff

1898 08 11

The monthly meeting of Linton guardians was told that the number of inmates in the workhouse during the past week was 60. The Local Government Board inspector drew attention to the large amount expended for out-relief which was about 10 times as much as the cost of in-maintenance. The Chairman said they found it difficult in cases of old people, who never had a chance of saving, to drive them into the workhouse, especially when the character of these deserving poor had been all their lives exemplary. They were quite alive to the necessity of treating very differently those cases where their wages had been spent in drink.

1898 09 21

An inquest was held at Cardinal's Green, Shudy Camps, touching the death of a child of seven years. Her mother said the child had complained of sickness. For dinner she had beef, pudding and potatoes and drank water fetched from a pond in the garden. It was the only water supply for drinking purposes in that part of the parish. There was no pump, well, or other supply of water. Doctor Jones said that the water was most dangerous, full of injurious microbes, and ought never to be used, even for washing domestic utensils, without being first boiled. Linton district council were told they should take immediate steps to cause a good supply of water to be effected

1899 04 26

The inconsistency with which Great Britain treats her soldiers is illustrated at a coroner's inquest at Linton concerning the death of John Lindsell. He was a farm servant, 68 years of age. While at his work he fell off a ladder and in a week he was dead. No blame attached to any one. He had served in the Crimean War where he received a shot through the shoulder. But in old age and feeble health he was compelled, that he might have bread for his wife and himself, to do the hard work of a farmer servant

1899 06 06

Poor Florrie R-- died at Linton last January. On a cold winter day this child of eleven, while suffering from scarlet fever, was by her own mother taken out of the house and dragged to the station in order that she might be sent by train to her grand mother. When the child got to the station she collapsed utterly. Her temperature was 105 degrees. That evening she died. The mother was convicted of wilfully exposing the child to the injury of its health and sentenced

to two months imprisonment. Had an animal been treated as Florrie was, people would have cried "shame"

1899 06 07

A carter, in the employ of Mr F. Marshall, was loading barrels of tar from the gas works into a truck at the railway station, Saffron Walden, when one of the barrels burst, with the result that Marshall was saturated, his face receiving the full force of the shower of tar, which got into his eyes, causing great agony. He was conveyed to Dr Wagstaff's surgery, and after treatment driven to his home at Linton. Hopes are entertained that his eyes will not be permanently affected.

1900 10 03

At the meeting at Linton to revise the voters' lists Mr Holtum objected to the name of Henry Webb in respect of a farm at West Wickham. Mr Hutt said the farm had been occupied by members of the Webb family for 146 years. Last Michaelmas the father wanted to give up the farm and the landlord accepted the son as tenant, but he stipulated that as long as Mr Webb sen. lived he should live in the house, thinking it a pity the old gentleman should turn out of the farm where he had resided for 46 years.

1901 07 23

The villages of Linton and Balsham were en fete on the occasion of the homecoming of the local members of the Suffolk Imperial Yeomanry. Crowds assembled at Linton station some time before the train was due, awaiting the arrival of the battle-stained warriors. The Sawston Brass Band (looking remarkably smart in their new uniform) struck up as soon as the soldiers made their appearance. A procession of carriages, horsemen and lady cyclists, their machines trimmed with flowers accompanied the parade that conveyed the men to Balsham.

1901 12 28

Even at this distance of time from its occurrence the calamity known as the "Liberator Smash" has not ceased to have a disastrous effect upon its victims. An old inhabitant of Linton was one of the many who lost his savings in that great financial fraud and it is supposed that this so affected his mind that on Christmas Day he took his own life. Deceased was in the habit of referring to his loss in a despondent manner and lately suffered from acute sleeplessness.

1902 06 23

Their primary object of isolation hospitals was to pick out early cases of infectious diseases and isolate them so that it might not spread. Newmarket district had a well-appointed hospital and when there had been epidemics of scarletina they had been stamped out rapidly. Caxton had erected a smallpox hospital in a temporary building but thought it desirable for a central hospital for smallpox alone. Linton wished to manage the matter entirely themselves. They had spent an enormous sum on vaccination and an epidemic ought to be impossible. They were very anxious to keep out of the hands of the County Council, in which they had not much confidence.

1904 02 11

Police told Linton magistrates that most public houses were satisfactorily conducted. But the landlord of the Swan, Linton had not exercised control over his guests, the publican of the Three Hills at Bartlow had been convicted of fighting with another publican from Brinkley outside the Montford Arms, Horseheath and the landlord of the Wheatsheaf beerhouse, Duxford had permitted people to remain in his house when drunk. The licence of the Pear Tree, Hildersham was transferred from Frederick Peters to George Gibson.

1904 05 20

The placid life of Linton has been stirred by a rumour that the dead body of a pauper had been sold by the Master of the Workhouse to the Cambridge School of Anatomy. This was a

perfectly lawful proceeding under the Anatomy Act which provides that the bodies of unclaimed paupers may be used for scientific study. The matter had been debated by the Board of Guardians who voted five for and five against but the Chairman declined to give the casting vote. The Master had taken it upon himself to send the body to Cambridge. But it was not 'sold'.

1904 05 21 c

Sir – some months ago when estimates were presented to the District Council for a new iron footbridge in Horn Lane, Linton the District Surveyor offered to do the work for less than the lowest tender. This was accepted and the old wooden bridge was pulled down. But since then the thoroughfare which is almost as much frequented as the High Street has been impassable. On going down it I was confronted with a notice saying 'No footpath'. This I cannot understand as the path is there all right, but no bridge. I hope this will not continue indefinitely – 'Lintonian'

1904 06 16

A terrible fatality occurred on a farm at Catley Park, Linton where a steam cultivator of Messrs Pamplin Bros of Cherry Hinton was at work pulling in a field. There was a large steam traction engine at each end of the field and the great boiler of one of them suddenly burst without the slightest warning with portions of the engine sent flying in all directions. The driver was caught by a piece of iron about the breast but is not seriously injured. A water cart was standing near under the charge of a farm workman who was struck on the head and killed on the spot. Portions of debris were found more than 200 hundreds yards away. The thick iron boiler was broken and twisted into all shapes and little of the engine was left intact.

1904 07 07

The Midsummer Fair brought its usual amusements but the cinematograph held undisputed sway: it is the autocrat which swallows hundreds of 'tuppences' and is always ready for more. It was patronised liberally and showed some very excellent representations of national and local life. War pictures form no inconsiderable part of the programme and among the turns of local interest were views of the May Races and the boiler explosion at Linton. In other respects it was much as other times. A good deal of space was occupied by stalls filled with souvenirs of gaudy hue, swing boats, coconut shies, vending machines of more or less domestic utility and a long array of refreshment saloons.

1904 07 15

Young people in Linton are being driven out of the village by their inability to secure a house to live in. But the prospect of doing anything is very shadowy indeed; the greater part of the land is in the possession of two owners neither of whom seems disposed to do much. Now the R.D.C. proposes to erect ten cottages to be rented for half-a-crown a week. This would relieve pressure on the present accommodation which is overcrowded to a degree few people would believe. Some of the houses are like rabbit hutches and 16-year-old boys and girls had to sleep in the same room together. At least ten cottages were so unsanitary they were unfit for human habitation but to condemn them would only intensify the problem.

1904 09 21

Seventeen Passive Resisters, including two magistrates were summoned at Linton for non-payment of portions of the poor rate. They included Richard Holtum a Linton grocer, Robert Maynard JP, engineer of Whittlesford and Egbert Gregory a Congregational minister from Duxford. When magistrates asked John Maris, a Duxford corn merchant, what he had to say he replied that what he wanted to say the bench did not wish to hear – he was opposed to paying for sectarian teaching. In some denominational schools children were taught that it was a sin to enter Nonconformist places of worship.

1905 01 27

Linton's new parish cemetery was dedicated. The churchyard and chapel burying grounds being almost full up, the church had tried to extend their graveyard but the Inspector would not consent owing to the proximity of the land to the river. The Parish Council decided to make an entirely new cemetery at a cost of £500. The situation is not unattractive, a few trees have been planted and there is ample room for extension. There has been a good deal of discussion as to how the cemetery should be opened. Various suggestions were made, some of them rather out of place, including an evening service by torchlight.

1905 05 05

Fifty years ago Messrs Richard and Septimus Holtum the well-known drapers and grocers started their business at Linton. They celebrated with a tea to old inhabitants of the village; 135 assembled in the British School where a substantial meal was provided. Subsequently an excellent programme of songs and recitals was presented. The event was crowned with complete success and will be remembered by those who took part for the remainder of their lives as one of the happiest and most enjoyable.

1906 04 20

The gipsy fraternity visited Linton police court to hear some of their brethren answer charges of having inflicted malicious damage. One night 161 palings were broken from a fence at Horseheath shortly after their vans had passed. Policemen visited the camp and saw a large quantity of the wood beside a large common fire. The gypsies said it belonged to a man who had moved on; they were fined 5s. 06 04 20abc

1906 08 24

A disastrous fire broke out at Place Farm, Balsham; flames spread to Mr Price's farm opposite and the premises adjoining were quickly demolished. There was panic, as it seemed flames would spread to neighbouring cottages and the road to Balsham was strewn with household furniture. The Queens Head, a thatched public house, caught fire six or seven times and was only saved from destruction with great difficulty. Linton fire fighters worked like Trojans but were hampered by the inadequacy of the water supply 06 08 24

1907 01 15

An inquest into the death of a male child of a single woman in a village near Linton heard she'd been attended by her mother, a midwife, who said that after the child was born it had moaned but did not cry, she did not slap it nor wash it. It was the fifth illegitimate child her daughter had had. Three of them were still alive, one was an idiot who'd fell on the fire a month ago. Another had been born dead. Dr W.M. Palmer said he'd found the child in a dirty cloth or flannel petticoat. If properly attended at birth it would have stood a good chance of living. 07 01 15a #

1907 06 24

Fire broke out at the Crown Hotel, Linton after the landlord went for an afternoon walk. The village fire brigade set to work but as soon as the windows were broken open the flames burst out in all directions. Three rooms were completely gutted with a large quantity of spirits, cigars and cigarettes destroyed in addition to books, furniture and pictures. The origin is shrouded in mystery. The commercial room, where the blaze started, has not had a fire in the grate for three weeks. 07 06 24

1908 02 17

Linton magistrates heard of a disorder at Chequers, Shudy Camps where some furniture had been removed from the pub and carted away next day. The landlord, who was a single man, had introduced as his housekeeper an unsuitable young single woman. This gave rise to some family difference. There had been frequent quarrels between the landlord and landlady at the

Cross Keys, Sawston and the landlord of the Bell at Balsham had not prevented excessive drinking. 08 02 07g

1908 02 07

The Ram beerhouse, Balsham, had existed previous to 1869, justices heard. There was a taproom, bar, kitchen, living-room and grocer's shop as well as four bedrooms. The back staircase and the stable roof were in bad repair. The tenant did a trade of about a dozen barrels of beer and six dozen bottled ale and stout a week. The population was 780 and there were five other fully-licensed pubs and three beer houses including the Five Ales. The licence was temporarily renewed. Also Cherry Tree, Sawston Chequers, Shudy Camps, Bell at Balsham, George & Dragon, Castle Camps, White Hart, Linton 08 02 07

1908 04 16

A cottage at The Grip, Linton, was damp and unfit for human habitation. It was very old and dangerous, the front room was only four feet nine inches high and the floor had sunk several inches since August. But where were the occupants to go? There are no empty cottages to be had and people could not be turned out into the road. The owner said the rooms were large and well ventilated and he was willing to repair it. 08 04 16a

1908 04 10

Linton congregational church new Sunday school- 08 04 10

1908 07 03

A groom had just had a thoroughbred horse shod at Mr Nortling's forge on the Balsham Road, Linton and was leaving the shop when his cap was blown off by the strong wind. The horse bolted at full gallop and the rider was thrown, falling on his head. He was picked up unconscious and conveyed on a horsed trolley to Dr Palmer's. The horse was caught by John Mansfield, postman of West Wrattling CWN 08 07 03 p8

1909 02 05

The George and Dragon beerhouse at Linton should close, justices decided. It was one of 11 licensed houses in the parish which had a population of 1,580. The accommodation consisted of a tap room, bar parlour, sitting room, small shop, cellar, kitchen, wash-house and five bedrooms. The roofing was out of repair and the flooring of the bedrooms and the staircase weak. The trade was about a barrel of beer and stout a week. The Three Horseshoes, Duxford was one of six in the village and there were more licensed houses in Balsham than were required, so the Five Bells should also close CWN 09 02 05

1909 04 02

A 14-year old lad was fined by Linton magistrates for stealing rabbit skins. If the father did not pay, the lad would go to prison. The boy said that was what he wanted. The Chairman told him: "If you were my boy I'd give you the biggest threshing you ever had. You would have it hot" "Unless he gets it now I don't know when he'll get it. He is a difficult customer to get hold of", the police advised. The magistrate decided to let the father off the fine if he would thresh the boy and he accordingly took the lad outside and administered severe castigation 09 04 02

1909 04 14

A fire does not occur every day in Linton and when it does it received a pretty cool reception. Monday is washing day and a number of women with arms bared to the elbow rushed from washing tubs, snatched up a pail and joined in the work of quenching the ardour of the leaping flames. With only a handkerchief over their heads they rushed through the smoke, defying flying fragments of fire and threw water at any fresh point where flame appeared. The majority of men were away at work but a crowd of the type generally to be found propping up

the walls of a public house collected and gazed on the fire with the glazed eyes of the habitual loafer 09 05 14

1909 12 31

The people at Linton Union spent a happy Christmas. As usual they were given a good old-fashioned Christmas dinner of roast beef, pork and vegetables, plum-pudding and half-a-pint of ale or mineral water. The plum puddings disappeared with great rapidity and were evidently relished. During the day oranges, sweets, tobacco and pipes sent by Messrs Holtum were distributed. On Boxing Day the Master invited the officers to a whist drive as a solace for the hard work of Christmas Day CWN 09 12 31

1910 02 04

The Chequers public house, Shudy Camps stood on a side road at the Horseheath end of the village. There was a house on the main road within about half-a-mile and only 18 private houses near. The pub was in good order, having been rebuilt 10 years ago. It sold a barrel of beer a week and had no spirit licence. It was not required, police told magistrates. They also objected to the George and Dragon at Linton, a beerhouse off the main thoroughfare. There was no trade done there, they were simply selling off stock. The Crown was about 130 yards away. also: Pampisford brewery and problems with pubs at West Wickham, West Wrattling, Ickleton with note on number of pubs in each village. 10 02 04 I & j & k

1910 02 04

Pampisford Brewery off licence. Chequers Shudy Camps, George & Dragon Linton – 10 02 04j

1910 02 25

On arriving by rail at Linton station the traveller has a pleasant drive of six miles to Balsham, a secluded old-world village where Time seems to pass with slow and reverent step, as if it is half-fearful of disturbing the sweet repose of that quaint archaic place. The square Norman tower of the old church rises grim and grey from amidst luxuriant foliage while the stately granite-built rectory stands in spacious grounds and the well-kept lawn slopes gradually down through a fairyland of flowers to a sylvan scene of much beauty. 10 02 25i

1910 03 11

Magnificent poplars which have stood opposite the Swan at Linton for many years have been felled. The execution of these noble trees, which were regarded with much affection, was ordered by the parish council as they have long been considered a danger in high winds and storms. The stumps stand as mournful relics. Whether in a revengeful spirit it is impossible to say, but one tree, in crashing to the ground, fell on Mrs Ficklin's wall and did some damage 10 03 11j

1910 05 27

An old woman named Mrs Dunn who had been living in a very dilapidated cottage at the Grip, Linton died aged 94. After the funeral the will was read which contained bequests to the value of £400! The house was in a filthy condition and to avoid jealousy the various bundles of rags were sold by Dutch auction. Coal, firewood, dresses and all sorts of odds and ends were disposed of including two pairs of corsets which were bought for twopence by Jenny Fordham of Hadstock. When she got home she found ten sovereigns wrapped up in them. 10 05 27a

1910 07 01

Licences for: Bassingbourn Beerhouse in the fen, Meldreth Green Man, Fulbourn Coach & Horses, Chesterton White Horse, Cottenham Boot, Fen Drayton Horse & Gate, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford King William IV, Shudy Camps Chequers, Linton George & Dragon. Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor,

Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a # c.27.4

1910 08 19

Two fires have occurred at Linton this week. Monday's was the most serious with two cottages next to the Green Hill being burned down. The engine was brought up smartly from its home under the rooms of the Constitutional Club and a host of helpers lined up from the well and passed filled buckets from hand to hand to keep the ever-thirsty engine supplied. Unfortunately over-zealous individuals took their buckets straight to the cottage and tackled the flames themselves, thus the engine was allowed to get dry. A patrol of ten Boy Scouts was brought to the scene and seated on the roof of an adjoining house the Scoutmaster directed a stream of water on to the flames. 10 08 19g

1910 08 26

The recent serious fires at Linton draw attention to the lack of efficient fire-fighting appliances in the villages. Many are of a pre-historic pattern and are useless from decay. In case of a large fire Cambridge brigade would turn out but what would then happen should a blaze break out here? A small up-to-date engine on the spot is worth half-a-dozen steamers and a corps of firemen two hours later. Parish Councils are empowered to buy an engine but this is expensive. Villages within some reasonable distance should share the cost. 10 08 26a & b

1910 08 26

Linton fire engine is a remarkable veteran in its vermilion coat but old age overcomes most things. Some years ago it was smartened up and new buckets obtained but since then outbreaks have been frequent and now many feel a new engine must be provided. Meanwhile the enterprising photographer who produced a series of picture postcards of the recent blaze has been hard at work keeping pace with orders. Several Boy Scouts who gave distinguished assistance have ridden over from Cambridge to purchase cards, one of which depicts the Scoutmaster seated on the roof of an adjoining building and directing a jet of water onto the flames. 10 08 26e

1911 02 03

Richard Wallace, actor of Soham, applied for a theatre licence for two months for the acting of stage plays in a fit-up theatre in Mr Gimson's meadow at Linton. He had played 'East Lynne' and 'The Silver King' and had a company of ten people. Any money that was taken would largely be spent with local tradespeople. But the Congregational Minister said he did not see why anyone should not spend his money at a theatre unless he was in debt. There was no need for these theatrical performances in the village. The magistrates refused to grant a licence. 11 02 03d

1911 02 10

Linton theatrical licence – letter – 11 02 10a

1911 04 14

The condition of houses in the Linton Rural District is fairly good but several old dilapidated cottages have been pulled down and others need attention. About 64 new properties have been built by private enterprise and the first ten houses in the county to be erected under the Housing and Town Planning Act will be built at Linton. Each will have three bedrooms, parlour, living room and scullery with coal shed and earth closet. Others may be erected in Whittlesford and Balsham 11 04 14a

1911 05 19

Linton was shocked by the death of William Cowling. He had been the village assistant headmaster then left to become clerk at Prior's Brewery. When this came to an end six years

ago he went into partnership with its brewer, Mr Siggs starting the Three Tuns Brewery in the main street. He was a parish councillor, secretary of the fire brigade and the Oddfellows and had been parish constable. Much of his popularity was gained by his willingness to do anything by way of correspondence for working people who did not have the ability to do it for themselves. 11 05 19h & i

1911 07 28

During a heavy thunderstorm a very vivid flash of lightning set alight to a large barn at Cook's Fen Farm at Hildersham. Rain was falling in torrents at the time, but the flames gained ground rapidly and it quickly became apparent that it would be quite impossible to save it. The barn was destroyed together with the farm implements, some machinery and a number of fowls. Linton Fire Brigade arrived very promptly and prevented the fire spreading to the hay stacks and other buildings which literally surround the barn and the house. Mr G.H. Potter lent horses and carts to bring water from the village after the supply at the farm quickly gave out. 11 07 28k

1911 11 17

There are several inmates of the Linton Workhouse who the Lunacy Commissioners consider should be treated as lunatics. But the Medical Officer (Dr Palmer) contends they are not lunatics in the correct sense of the word and has not certified them 11 11 17c

1912 02 09

Linton has been deprived of one of its most popular residents by the death of Charles Morley at the early age of 33 years. He passed away with tragic suddenness while auditing the books of the Ancient Shepherd's Lodge at his home. He had been the Linton agent for Messrs Coote and Warren, coal dealers, and been secretary of the Flower Show & Sparrow Club, past grand master of the Oddfellows' Lodge and a member of the Parish Council. 12 02 09e

1912 05 24

Messrs Holtum and Sons, the Linton grocers, offered a halfpenny for every queen wasp taken to them during April and May with a view to decreasing the number of wasps which are particularly troublesome at this time of the year. Over 885 have been received, helping to rid the village of these pests and proving profitable to those with a capacity to catch them. 12 05 24k

1912 05 31

The County Council sued Messrs Pepper and Hollis, gravel pit proprietors of Cambridge and Lt Abington for damage caused to the public highway by their heavy traction engines and trucks loaded with gravel. They had hauled 1,000 tons of gravel on the road from Abington to Pampisford, cutting it up. But Linton Council's steam tractor also used it, as did Pamplin's engines, commercial motors from Chaplin of Fulbourn, Christmas of Haverhill and Hudsons from Pampisford. 12 05 31

1912 06 07

People who visit Linton church on the occasion of a wedding will be denied the pleasure of distributing quantities of rice and confetti within the precincts of the church. The Rev J.H. Rutter is determined to put a stop to the practice; he writes "A perhaps pardonable piece of somewhat barbaric buffoonery at the home festivals, the throwing of confetti is nothing but an utter profanity when brought into close contact with the beautiful and solemn marriage ceremony, and cannot be too sternly suppressed". 12 06 07g

1912 06 28

During a meeting at Linton Workhouse a member of the Board of Guardians placed his straw hat on the hat stand before entering the Board Room. When the meeting was over he was astonished to find that it had been taken and that a disreputable-looking cap had been left in

its place. No one had been seen to enter the building and the occurrence surprised all. Fortunately he was able to borrow a cap to wear home. During the past fortnight 63 tramps had visited the home against 27 in the same period last year. 12 06 28j

1912 07 19

Mrs Mary Ann Wright of Linton took a deep religious interest in all religious work in the village. She helped establish the Gospel Mission Band and it was out of this that the Salvation Army corps originated. She was also organiser of the Good Templars and took a deep interest in the work of the Brethren, who assembled at a house for prayer and public worship without the aid of a paid minister. Her funeral took place at the cemetery after a Brethren's meeting at the house of the diseased lady. 12 07 19i

1912 08 02

When the Women's Suffrage Association held open-air meetings at Abington and Linton numbers attending were noticeably large in proportion to the size of the village and a good many have their names as 'friends of Women's Suffrage'. At St Ives a meeting was held on the Market Place where about 300 listened with sympathetic attention to Miss H. Frazer, a well-known speaker for the cause who has come to help in Suffrage propaganda. She also addressed a similar meeting at Huntingdon where a large and orderly crowd of men showed deep interest and a resolution in favour of women's suffrage was passed without a single dissident. 12 08 02 c d

1912 08 23

The great disappointment experienced by members of the fair sex in Linton last year when the Army Manoeuvres were abandoned has made their excitement this year very much keener. Tremendous rivalry exists amongst some of the damsels as to which shall be the first to sight the coming of the khaki coast and above all to be the first to welcome the gallant men. Some officers are dashing around in a motor car but it will be some time before any of the soldiers are actually stationed in a large camp in the field below the station. 12 08 23m

1912 09 06

Manoeuvres begin – Stourbridge common, Linton – 12 09 06h & i

1912 09 13

Linton Schoolroom has become a reading room for the soldiers taking part in the army manoeuvres and is crowded each night by appreciative 'Khakis'. A party of soldiers passing the Dog and Duck saw flames in an upstairs window where a little girl had set light to her bedclothes and succeeded in extinguishing them just as they were licking the roof. And soldiers came to the rescue of pear growers who'd had such an abundant crop they'd feared good fruit would be wasted, buying the juiciest of pears for a penny a quarter. 12 09 13o

1912 09 20

A Hildersham miller and baker told the bankruptcy court he'd started in 1886 with a windmill at Ickleton, then worked as a baker in London. In 1904 he bought Hildersham mill with two cottages from Mr French for £150 and built a bakehouse. He'd ground and sold the new Standard bread, advertising a great deal and got special vans and extra horses. But his attempts to sell in Cambridge had failed. So he started a shop in Linton for a few months but could not make it pay. 12 09 20a & b

1912 09 20

His Majesty the King visited the Hardwick aero camp where he spoke to Colonel S.F. Cody, and inspected his famous biplane. He showed much interest in the position of the propeller, which is behind the pilot and not in front, as in the other biplanes at the camp. The King then commanded Col Cody to make a short exhibition flight. In a few seconds the plane was in the air, making several circuits, flying both high and low before pulling up gracefully within a

few yards of the Royal party. The King then inspected the naval biplanes before leaving. Shortly afterwards Mr de Havilland arrived in a biplane from the 'seat of war' – the manoeuvres around Linton 12 09 20e also 20d, photos 20f, g. Airmen's triumph, Mutlow Hill taken etc – 20h; fighting Horseheath – 20i, Castle Camps – 20j, airship 20k 20l 20n

1912 09 27

Linton's Indian Mutiny veteran – memories of Robert Lindsell & his meeting with the King – 12 09 27d & e

1913 01 10

Linton Guardians meeting re annual treat

1913 02 14

Linton licensing – list licensed houses in each parish, Sawston Chestnut beerhouse applies licence

1913 02 21

Linton boy scouts extinguished a fire at the Crown Inn. At the close of their weekly meeting one the patrol leaders were putting out the lamp when it fell to the ground. The paraffin poured out, ignited and flared up so that the flames reached the ceiling. Scoutmaster Barber ordered the boys to fetch the fire engine but Patrol Leader W. Dison threw sacks on the floor and jumped on them, extinguishing the blaze. Two lads' overcoats were seriously scorched

1913 02 21

Linton isolation hospital debate

1913 04 18

Linton RD road roller

1913 05 09

Election meetings, Linton, Castle Camps, Shudy Camps, Soham, Fordham, Newmarket, Fen Ditton etc

1913 05 30

Severe thunderstorms with hailstones as large as walnuts caused considerable damage. Houses on the north side of Linton High Street caught the full force of the storm and scarcely a whole pane of glass remained. The railway and police stations suffered heavily. 134 panes were broken at the Workhouse and Mr Burgess's greenhouse was one mass of broken glass mixed up with plants of all descriptions. It resembled the scene of a Suffragette outrage. 13 05 30 p11

1813 06 27

Linton workhouse disputes

1913 07 04

Linton school master charged assault

1913 08 08

A white-haired 86-year-old old lady came before Linton Guardian to lay a grievance. The Master said she had been insubordinate, had conveyed messages between an old man and an imbecile woman. She had had her tea and sugar stopped and been prevented from going into the fields. The woman said she's broken the rules in complete ignorance. She'd accepted some apples over the hedge and for that her tea and sugar were stopped. Although 86 she was active and wanted to get in the fields. Guardians must support the Master but they would allow the tea and sugar now she'd apologised. 13 08 08 p3 CIP

1913 08 15

Linton stack fire

1913 08 29

Linton – Morley rescued from river by scouts

1913 09 19

Linton Guardians discussed the work of the lady inspector who'd been going round to all the homes where children were boarded out. Her inspection had not only been very full, it was inquisitorial;. She inspected everything about the child and then examined the whole of the house. That was an offence against an Englishman's liberty. Several foster parents had refused to have any more children under any circumstances and there would be difficulty in getting children boarded out in the future if this was allowed to go on 13 09 19 p10

1913 10 10

Stone pounding in Linton Union

1913 11 21

Death Lindsell, Linton mutiny veteran who chatted to King at manoeuvres
Soham Salvation Army wedding

1913 12 12

Linton Guardians report

1914 02 06

Hunting Accident—On Monday, Mrs. Purkis, wife of Mr. Thomas Purkis of Basham Hall, Linton, met with a nasty accident while following the hounds near Haverhill. Mrs. Purkis's horse failed to take a hedge, and fell, throwing her to the ground. She sustained a fractured collar bone, and was taken to Linton by Dr. Palmer. She is making good and steady progress.

1914 02 06

Linton Guardians want steam roller; are tramps on the way out? – 14 02 06j

1914 05 01

Departure of Headmistress. - Miss Etheldreda Fleet, the Headmistress of the Infants' Department of the Linton Schools, leaves today (Friday). She has held that situation five years, having been appointed in March 1909. Previous to coming to Linton, Miss Fleet held the post of assistant teacher at Eden Street Higher Grade School, Cambridge, and she has also held posts in other parts of the County. Yesterday (Thursday) Miss Fleet was presented with a marble clock and breakfast cruet from the School Managers, teachers and children. As is already known, Miss Fleet is to marry Mr. J. H. Clarke, of Trinity College, Cambridge, shortly, and a number of local people have already sent presents. Her duties at the School will be taken up by Miss Houseman, from Yorkshire– 1914 05 01 CIPof

1914 06 05

Departure.—Mr. Geoffrey Barber, who has been with Messrs. Holttum and Son, grocers and provision merchants Linton, for 7½ years, left on Saturday prior to going to Australia to join some friends on a sheep farm. – 14 06 05 CIPof

1914 06 12

The field day and inspection of the Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachments was held at Linton. At the station railway wagons or carriages were prepared as for the reception of the wounded and the waiting room was fitted up with half a dozen beds with a field kitchen in the goods yard. The platform in the goods shed became a ward for less serious cases and in a siding stood the carriages used for the stretchers containing the wounded. 1914 06 12 p4

1914 06 26

When the caretaker opened Linton church he found two planks in the belfry tower had been torn from the roof above, several chairs were broken and a large lump of lead lay on the floor. He suspected a visit from the suffragettes as other outrages have been frequent. It was found that the piece of lead was not a bomb but one of the clock weights which hung high in the tower. It had crashed through the belfry floor, chipped an oak beam and caused the disorder. The clock was still going. 14 06 19 p4

It was the practice for bodies of paupers who had died at Linton workhouse to be taken by bearers straight to the grave on the hearse. But relatives of a Duxford person had wanted to take the body before it went to the graveyard for interment so they could put handles and a breastplate on the coffin to give the impression the funeral was a private one. This would be allowed in future but the body must be buried that day. Otherwise relatives would be keeping it for several days. 14 06 26

1914 07 31

Linton Red Cross War Office inspection

1914 07 31

Linton speed limit

1914 08 07

Linton war hospital *

1914 08 14

Harry Cottage of Linton has five sons on service. Two are members of the Regular Army and are with the British forces and two others old Army men. Being Reservists they have been called up to rejoin and left Linton last week. The fifth is a Territorial. At Cottenham Mrs Cundel is proud to have all her sons servicing. One is on a warship, another is returning from Canada, four are with their regiments and the seventh has just joined the colours. A sister is married to a blue-jacket serving in the war. The mother is making flannel garments for the soldiers

1914 08 21

Linton recruiting

1914 08 21

Shirts for the Wounded. - Several ladies in the village (Linton) are making shirts for the wounded soldiers. A collection was made last week, and with the sum raised a quantity of material was bought. A working party is held at the house of Mrs. H. P. Chalk, whilst those who are unable to attend the party do the work at home. - 1914 08 21 CIPof

1914 08 28

Wm Wolfe, Stretham engine driver summonsed Linton *

1914 08 28

Red Cross Society.—The Linton Union has been approved as a temporary hospital and the necessary arrangements are being made. The second lecture in connection with the above Society was delivered by Dr. Palmer on "First Aid to the Wounded" on Tuesday afternoon. The Ladies' Working Party is still meeting and doing good work. - 1914 08 28 CIPof

1914 09 04

Linton tarring

1914 09 11 Enlistment – Lolworth, Boxworth, Over, Bourn, Linton, Cottenham, Elsworth, Swavesey, Bottisham, Longstanton, Sawston, Comberton, Waterbeach

1914 09 11

Five Sons with the Colours.—Mr. George Hills, a roadman, of Linton, has five sons, James, Arthur, Walter, Charles and Edward, serving with the Colours. The first four are in the Suffolk Regiment, whilst Edward has joined the Second Regular Army. – 1914 09 11 CIPof

1914 09 18

Patriotic Action. — Several recruits have left Newton to join. Lord Kitchener's Army, and among them are five from Newton Hall Estate. Sir Charles Waldstein is making up the difference in the pay of his men, and is keeping open their places until they return. —Sawston has responded nobly to the country's call for recruits. Through the efforts of Mr. Huddleston, 20 young fellows left by one bus last week. The occasion was marked by a demonstration of goodwill by the inhabitants, and a hearty cheer was raised as the conveyance left Sawston. There are already 80 names on the Roll of Honour, which is placed in a conspicuous position in the centre of the village. Ex-Sgt.-Major S. Hillyard, of High Street, Linton, has enrolled 80 recruits in three weeks.

1914 09 18

Village enlistment – Newton, Quy, Ickleton, Gransden, Boxworth, Fen Drayton, Elsworth, Abington, Willingham, Linton, Histon, Conington

1914 10 02

Recruiting Wimpole, Arrington, Linton, Abington

1914 10 30

Belgians – Waterbeach not help, Soham arrivals, Burwell, Bourn, Cottenham, Duxford, Gamlingay, Gt Eversden, Histon, Linton, Over, Sawston, Swavesey, Chatteris, Cheveley

1914 11 06

Belgians – Littleport, Burwell, Chatteris, Duxford, Comberton, Sawston, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Swavesey, Fordham, West Wickham, Wicken, Gamlingay, Willingham, Madingley, Isleham, Landbeach, Linton, Lode, Oakington,

1914 11 20

Linton VAD hospital

1914 12 04

Linton Postman's Six Bayonet Wounds.—A lady at Linton has received a letter from Corporal C. Jaggard, a Linton postman attached to the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, who is a prisoner of war lying seriously wounded in a German hospital. It appears that he was one of four who escaped out of a total of 40, all the others being killed. He received six bayonet wounds— two in the back, two in the neck, one in the chest, and one in the thumb. He also had his forefinger shattered. The corporal owes his life to a woollen trench helmet which he was wearing at the time. It prevented a bayonet thrust from going deep into his neck. He was lying two days before being picked up by the Germans. Later it was reported that his wounds were healing satisfactory, and he is progressing slowly.

1914 12 04

Linton fire, Mallyon's shop

1914 12 18

Linton d. Wm Farrow, Indian Mutiny veteran

1915 09 10

Linton rifle range miniature rifle meeting

1916 02 09

Linton VAD Hospital – feature – 16 02 09d

1916 04 12

Linton Man's Death. — Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Morley, of Linton, had been notified of the death at Chatham of their son, Sapper Sydney Morley. It is only five weeks' since he was called up in his group, and he was serving in the Royal Engineers. Deceased was very popular in the locality, and was connected with the Linton Cricket and Dramatic clubs.

1917 09 05

Chaplain Killed.—Capt the Rev. Herbert Green, M.C., Chaplain to the Forces, and fourth son of Mr. Henry Green, C.C., of Linton, fell in action, on August 24. He gained the Military Cross at the second Battle of Arras for devotion to duty and care for the wounded under very heavy fire. The late Captain Green was born on January 16, 1889 and after entering business at Cambridge, offered himself for the Wesleyan Ministry in 1912, entering the Richmond Theological College. The outbreak of war found him in his last year at college, and with several other brother students he joined the Royal Naval Division, being stationed at the Crystal Palace and Blandford. In the following year he was given a lieutenancy, and in the year after that he was transferred to the Chaplains' Department, being ordained in September and proceeding to France. He married in November, 1915, Miss Olive Barugh Barugh of Linton to whom the deepest sympathy is extended. On the very day that her husband was expected home on leave, she received the sad tidings of his death in action.

1917 11 07

Price of Coal - The Rural District Council, of Linton, in an with announcement made under the Retail Coal Prices Order, 1917, announced maximum prices chargeable for the sale of coal by retail for domestic purposes in certain parishes in their area. At certain railway stations the prices fixed were 37s. per ton for best house coal and 36s. for kitchen cobbles. The prices per cwt. (delivered) varied as follows Best house coal 2s. to 2s. 4d. cobbles 1s 11d. to 2s. 3d.

1918 02 27

The Floods,—we understand that a special committee has been appointed to find out the cause of the recent flooding of Mill Lane Sawston where damage was done to homes of people and other property. A preliminary meeting has already been held, and it has been decided that a thorough inspection of the river is to be made shortly to find out the cause and to suggest, if possible, a remedy to prevent floods of a similar description. The Special Committee consists of representatives of the Linton Rural District Council, the Sawston, Whittlesford, Duxford and Ickleton Parish Councils, and Mr. H. G. Spicer of the Sawston Paper Mill together with the District Surveyor.

1919 01 01

Linton Women's Institute stall – photos – 19 10 01c

1919 04 30

Nine inches of snow,—Snow fell in Linton on Sunday to a depth of over nine inches, and it is a curious coincidence that on April 27 eleven years ago, there was a similar heavy snowfall.

1919 06 11

Rats! -A well-known Linton resident had an unfortunate weekend with big poultry and stock. On Thursday he discovered that eight ducklings had been taken by rats, and eight others, together with the hen foster-mother, lay dead in the nest. On Thursday two of his rabbits were

missing. But disaster did not end there, as the family goat got into the kitchen garden, demolishing a whole bed of asparagus, several rows of peas and other edibles.

1919 06 18

Big gathering of mothers – About 400 members of the Mothers Union in the Camps Rural Deanery assembled at Balsham Rectory. They hailed from Whittlesford, Sawston, Pampisford, Ickleton, Duxford, Castle Camps, Horseheath, Linton, Bartlow and Balsham. They partook of tea, and were addressed by the Bishop of Ely and Mrs. Eager, from the Central Mothers' Union, London.

1919 09 10

Tried to Square a Constable. A Castle Camps man, stated to be a dealer, was summoned at Linton court for driving a horse and cart without a light on August 20. He pleaded guilty. A constable stated that when he accosted the defendant, the latter tried to square him. The chairman stated that owing to the defendant's behaviour to the constable he would be fined £1

1920 03 10

County licenses: Linton: Axe & Saw; Horseheath: Montford Arms, Castle Camps: George & Dragon referred – 20 03 10b

1920 07 14

Licences refused Barrington Victorian, Guilden Morden 'Pig & Whistle', Castle Camps 'George and Dragon', Linton 'Axe & Saw' – 20 07 14b

1920 11 17

Licenses refused: Barrington : Victoria; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle; Castle Camps George & Dragon; Linton Axe & Saw – 20 11 17c

1920 07 10

Public houses considered for closure – Victoria, Barrington; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle, Cherry Hinton Hopbine, Castle Camps George & Dragon, Linton Axe & Saw, King Street Boot, Chesterton High Street Indian Chief, Newnham Road Tally Ho, East Road Turnstile, Gwydir Street Dew Drop

1920 11 03

Womens' Institutes. The quarterly meeting of the committee and delegates of the Cambs Federation of Women's Institutes was held on Saturday afternoon. Mrs Jenyns (Bottisham) presided supported by Miss Briscoe (Cambridge) hon. secretary Miss Warrington (Waterbeach), the treasurer; Mrs. Haslam (Girton), the Fete secretary; Mrs. Bafnell (Little Shelford), Miss Stanton (Linton), Mrs. Sidney Fordham (Odsey), Mrs. Kellett the area organiser etc. The treasurer's statement showed there was a balance of £20 1s 6d for use during the first quarter of the year. It was decided to continue the rest room at Cambridge for the use of the members. The meeting considered the advisability of starting an Institute stall in the Cambridge Market. The chairman said a stall would not be available for two months and the cost would be 2s 6d a day. The hon. secretary said if the Federation got a better office in some public place they might have the produce on sale at the office. It was decided that the matter should be considered further at a later meeting. An interesting and instructive lecture was given by Mrs Wootton of Girton College on 'High Prices.' Mrs. Wootton said each time she had given a lecture she had spoken with increasing cheerfulness of prices coming down and now she thought she might say they were coming down. There were two chief reasons for high prices, viz there were not enough things, and there was too much money to buy those things. There was less coal mined and less steel made before the war, and these were the things upon which everything depended. Modern civilisation was built up on coal. There was certainly profiteering, but this could not be if there was enough to go round. It was no use having money unless there were things to buy.

There were £350,000,000 of paper money in the country, and it was the increase of the money that had helped to send prices up. The money was only put into circulation because the Government could not get it any other way. The Government and the people of the country were really bidding for the goods. The country was now not only paying for imports but they had a surplus of £200,000.000 a year which helped to lower prices. The making of paper money had been checked. The Government was paying its way, and on the whole the two sides of the budget balanced.

1921 03 16

Linton war memorial unveiled – 21 03 16c, photos 21 03 16h

1921 09 28

W.M. Palmer 'Neighbourhood of Linton' article- 21 09 28a, 21 10 05b, 21 0 12c

1922 09 07

At the meeting of Linton Rural Council the Clerk read a letter from the Ministry of Transport enclosing an agreement whereby the Ministry paid half the Surveyor's salary, the Surveyor not to be appointed or dismissed without the approval of the Ministry. Mr Brocklebank proposed non-acceptance of the offer because from long experience of Government grants he had found that they never gave a grant without they took something back. They always said that they were going to do nothing but they "put the screws on" later on. This Council was responsible for the government of this district and they ought to be masters in their own house.

1924 11 14

Compensation was approved in respect of six licensed houses, which have been closed. They were The King's head, Cottenham, The Dolphin, Waterbeach, The Little Rose at Swavesey, The Coach and Horse, Linton, The Morning Star at Sawston & The Duke of Wellington in Cambridge, licensee Mr A.S. Scales where compensation was agreed at £1,000.

1924 06 12

At Linton Rural District Council the chairman said the County Council wished to take over the roads at present controlled and repaired by their council, and pointed out the County had already taken over the main roads in Linton district, and were keeping them up at a cost of £165 per mile, whereas Linton council were maintaining in a good state 100 miles of road at a cost of about £70 per mile. It was agreed that the present system worked very well and they should resist any attempt to take over their roads

1924 07 04

The Chief Constable reported that during the last quarter 40 indictable crimes were reported for which 18 persons (one female) were charged. Of these four were discharged, one imprisoned, one whipped, six fined, three bound over, one committed to industrial school and two committed for trial. 1,245 vagrants were relieved. At Linton certain action had been taken to make it a place that tramps had no wish to go – and the result was that neighbouring workhouses had an undue number of tramps on their books.

1924 11 14

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1925 01 01

The festive spirit was properly infused into Linton workhouse during Christmastide. The gaily decorated dining room might have been mistaken for a fancy dress ballroom. Streamers stretched from

corner to corner while the artificial butterflies settled on the curtains looked quite capable of fluttering on to the artificial roses which embroidered the wainscoting of the room. The wireless set and gramophone each played their part in providing entertainment during the day.

1925 02 20

Linton RDC heard that the village most in need of cottages as Balsham – which was really in a sad plight. Under the Addison Act the council had chosen a building site there, but the purchase was never completed, partly owing to the cost. They had now been able to get the promise of two really good sites to be given to the council and they would be able to build six cottages at a rent of 4s. (20p) a week

1925 08 07

Sawston's sewerage system being in level country it constantly needs flushing and for this purpose the Parish Council has been paying labour. A scheme was now proposed by which water would be raised by windmill pump on land standing in the highest part of the village to flush out the pipes. At Linton people emptied refuse into the gutterways so that the matter ran into the river and accumulated there.

1925 08 27

With regard to water supplies in the Newmarket rural district 83 of the 103 water samples taken for analysis were reported to be polluted. In Soham where about 100 houses were supplied from 56 polluted wells, 53 have been connected with the public water main and now of 1,239 structurally separated dwellings 860 are supplied from the mains. At Bottisham 12 samples taken from different wells at the north end of the village all afforded evidence of pollution. In Linton a new public well has been bored into the chalk & consideration has been given to the provision of a new public well at Milton which it is expected will shortly be proceeded with.

1925 09 03

Linton Rural District Council congratulated themselves on the latest movement in their house building campaign. Houses are to be built at Balsham at £400 or less apiece – assuming free sites can be obtained. On these conditions rents of 4s 6d a week are to be charged and the cost to the rates is only a farthing in the £. They were also likely to be able to build houses at West Wickham and Carlton and there were vacant sites at Sawston & Hildersham. The Government would give £12.10s a year for 40 years for every cottage built.

1925 12 31

The RSPCA prosecuted a Linton man for overdriving a sow. He had been given the job to drive the animal to a farm where it would be used for stock purposes. On arrival the sow was so exhausted that it died within a minute. The man said: "I took an hour to get her there. She started 'blowing' before I got out of Green Lane and she was a trouble all along the way. I have driven a good many pigs, but she capped the lot for 'blowing'." He was fined 13s. 6d.

1926 01 27

The adventures of a lady's new coat, ordered through the post were traced at Linton police court. From Worcester the coat journeyed on its appointed way until reaching Whittlesford station. Charles Walker, a parcels porter, said he conveyed the parcel from the train to the parcel office. It was later placed in the booking hall to await delivery. When the carman came for the parcels this one was missing. It was later found at the 48 mileage on the Duxford siding.

1926 02 19

Linton RDC received an application on behalf of Clare College to a subsidy for the erection of a pair of cottages at Ickleton. Mr Brocklebank said the grant was to enable cottages to be built which could not be built if the grant were not given. He could not conceive that the Mater, Fellows and Scholars of Clare College were unable to afford to build these cottages. The council applied for permission to borrow money for the erection of 12 cottages in the parishes of Carlton, West Wickham and Hildersham.

1926 02 25

A remarkable story of how a young coloured traveller bought war decorations for sheer vanity & wore them at the Green Hill public house, Linton, was related at Linton Police Court. Defendant was a native of Trinidad, the son of an eminent K.C. in the West Indies. He asserted he had joined the West Indian Light Horse in 1920 and went to France, but then admitted he had bought the medals in Clapham for 1s.11d.

1927 04 28

Linton RDC was told that houses, which had cost £900 to build, were now being valued at only £300. There were houses in every stage of decay, many of them past repair. They were owned by private owners who received such a low rent that they did not feel like spending money on the preservation of their property. Owners were reluctant to spend money they would never get back. People were leaving the villages and flocking to the towns and how could you keep them unless you build houses for them to live in. There were places where cottages had not been built for 20 years.

1927 08 18

Linton RDC has been made a council under the Rural Workers' Act. This provides a grant of money, not for repairing cottages, but for enlarging them and making buildings which were faulty more perfect. They were empowered to make a grant of between £50 and £100 either as a donation or a loan. Conditions were set up and if any were broken the owner was liable to repay the grant with interest.

1927 09 15

The question of water supply was becoming more and more serious, Linton RDC was told. In one side of the district there was no water. The ponds were all very low, and the people were drinking out of roadside drains water which was impregnated with decayed vegetable matter. There was no even water enough for cleanliness, and something must be done. But the other side was plentifully supplied. Sawston people would object to paying for Horseheath or Castle Camps. The question was whether they should go on digging wells or whether it was possible to take any other measure which would be more perfect or less expensive

1928 02 03

A rabbit hunt was organised at Linton and a large number gathered to enjoy the sport provided. There were about 80 men, most of whom were armed with stout sticks and about 50 dogs of all sorts and sizes. The affair, which has now become an annual event, attracted people from all parts of the region. The hunt started from Green Hill and within 200 yards the first kill was made. Up to lunch 18 rabbits and one hare had been killed and afterwards they went to Payne's Pasture where rabbits were in abundance and kills numerous.

1928 06 09

A meeting was held to protest against a proposal to close the public footpath leading from Bartlow to Bartlow Church and close to the historic Bartlow Hills. There had been an attempt to close the path 25 years ago and another attempt last year. The path was partly in Cambs and partly in Essex and a parish council meeting had given Linton R.D.C. the right to close it. If it were closed it would keep the majority of Bartlow parishioners from the church. The dead had been carried down that footpath and to many it was sacred. In these days of traffic they wanted to be able to walk down footpaths and enjoy true nature.

1928 08 30

Four London men had an amazing escape when a motor lorry overturned and caught fire at the Gog Magogs. The heavily-laden lorry was descending the Linton side of the hill when the steering mechanism gave way and the vehicle, careering down the road like a drunken man, skidded for about 50 yards, struck the grass verge and completely overturned. The engine

burst into flames and the chassis became involved, but the men managed to extricate themselves, having sustained only minor injuries. Some obstruction was caused by the derelict vehicle which was eventually removed by a breakdown gang from a Cambridge garage.

1929 03 07

A Linton butcher was fined for exposing for sale imported meat, each piece of which was not labelled with the word 'Imported' and the words disclosing the country of origin. An Inspector of Weights and Measures said he visited the shop and saw a considerable number of pieces of meat, some of which he suspected were imported. There was no label on any meat in the shop. The butcher produced a label marked 'Imported' from a drawer and said he had not put it on since the war. He did not attempt to deceive customers since the pieces of imported meat were not mixed up with English meat

1929 06 22

Linton cottage hospital discussed – CDN 22.6.1929

1930 07 28

County councillors should contribute towards water supply in the Linton district because since the new Cambridge water scheme at Fulbourn came about a lot of the village wells had run dry. Coun. Frost said: "I would not mind paying for a motor charabanc to take them out to West Wratting and let them have a cup of tea out of the pond – but I very much doubt that I should bring them back alive". But this would be the thin end of the wedge and umpteen other applications would come in from other villages. 30 07 28a-c #

1931 02 27

The Shepherd's Hall, Linton, was crowded to hear Dr Palmer's talk on the village's old houses. He showed pictures of the Court House projecting into the street where Mr Septimus Holtum's houses now stands and of wall paintings discovered in 1928. A pair of massive fire hooks, made for pulling down burning buildings, used to hang on the side of Chandlers. They were removed but have been recovered and are now safely fixed on the inside of the parish church. 31 02 27b

1932 10 07

Linton council heard that there was a plague of rats. They should go back to the old scheme of paying a penny per tail for dead rats. But there would be an awful scrap for the tails when stacks were pulled down and they would be paying out for all the rats in Cambridgeshire. It had cost of a lot of money and in the end there were more rats than ever - there were rumours that people bred them, simply to kill them and collect the pennies. It would be cheaper to employ a professional rat-catcher. 32 10 07c

1932 10 07

The landlord of the Crown Inn, Linton, told the bankruptcy hearing that the pub had paid its way until the new taxes went on. While there he'd gone into partnership as a garage owner but this had come to an end when the Dominion Oil Company sold up the garage. After that he travelled for a book firm, working on commission while his wife looked after the pub. He then borrowed from a moneylender. 32 10 07d

1933 04 20

"If you care to go down the main street of Linton any night there is an almost unbelievable smell which is a disgrace to the parish", the District Council was told. The sewage arrangements were the same as hundreds of years ago. There were 36 drains running from yards to the main gutter along the street. A new sewage scheme had got to come. 33 04 20b

1934 03 22

The final meeting of Linton Rural District Council was held before it combined with Melbourn and Caxton and Arrington to form the new South Cambridgeshire RDC. It could not be termed a 'funeral party' for the council has never been a soulless machine and died as it had lived in a friendly and pleasant atmosphere. White-haired Canon Thornton has presided over it from 1909, the last of the three chairmen. He remembered when some councillors rode to meetings on horseback and put their horses in the place later used for the hearse. Their last debate was on the biggest scheme ever launched: the plan for supplying water to the whole district. 34 03 22

1935 02 22

A businessman told the bankruptcy court that he had worked in Nigeria for five years, then gone into partnership in a house decorating business in Linton. He put in £550 but lost it all. He afterwards went into the garage business but that also was a failure and he lost all his money. He sunk the whole of his capital in the two businesses. He appeared to have no practical knowledge of either business which was at the bottom of the trouble. 35 02 22

1936 10 09

South Cambs RDC's water scheme was inaugurated with the opening of the new pumping station between Linton and Hildersham. Previously water had to be carted to two parishes and it is hoped that every household within reasonable distance of the mains would take a supply. Councillors then visited the water tower on Rivey Hill where most climbed to the top and inspected the 87,000 gallon tank. 36 10 09 b & c

1937 01 28

A report from Linton parish council draws attention to the increased heavy traffic through the village and suggests that the old Roman Road from Cherry Hinton should be made up. But this would cost £6,000 a mile. An alternative scheme would be the classification of the existing road leading from the Cambridge-Haverhill road though Hildersham and the construction of a by-pass linking it with the Haverhill road south of Linton 37 01 28

1937 08 24

Tanks prepare for manoeuvre, Linton - photo – 37 08 24

1937 10 15

Linton Village College could help the agricultural industry and help stem the drift from the countryside to the towns. It is intended to serve as a community centre for education, recreation and social life, the Earl of Feversham said at the opening. The teaching of mathematics would have a realistic connection with what went on in the workshop and school garden. It has a workshop equipped with lathes and means of learning about the internal combustion engine (with an eye on the farm tractor) and electricity while girls do cookery, housewifery and laundrywork in the domestic science room. 37 10 15a

1938 01 29

Henry Brunning of Great Shelford was a blacksmith for 55 years being kicked by horses many times. He did an apprenticeship at Barrington, then joined Alec Redhouse's firm of engineers and general smiths at Balsham. He later worked at forges at Linton, Shelford and Stapleford. He remembers when all travelling had to be done by walking or carrier carts and there were more penny-farthing cycles than anything else. During the Great War he worked in a munitions factory at Trumpington. He treasures a box of six spoons sent by his daughter who served in France as a nurse; each carries the name of a battlefield on which she'd served. 38 01 29

1938 03 11

Linton Congregational Church new minister – 38 03 11b

1939 10 21

Dr William Mortlock Palmer of Linton, the well-known antiquary, started his career with Messrs Campkins, chemists and in 1901 took up practice in Linton, retiring seven years ago. In 1935 he proceeded to an honorary degree of Master of Arts and became a member of Pembroke College. He was best-known as a member of Cambridge Antiquarian Society and wrote several volumes, the last on of the History of Borough Green. In 1931 he received an address of thanks from Cambridge Town Council for his work on the Borough documents 39 10 21b

1938 11 02

Linton black-out fines – 39 11 02b

1939 12 01

Councillors objected to Roman Catholic evacuees being moved from Linton to Clacton at public expense. They were in very comfortable homes, were well looked after and educated. "I do not care if they are Catholics or Hindus but they should not be moved at public expense", one said. Now they were being removed simply because the Roman Catholics wanted them to be under their supervision. They had previously agreed to take another 80 children; 40 were due to arrive at both Sawston and Whittlesford, but none came. At Bassingbourn only six out of 27 had arrived. Rooms had been gone ready and people ought not to be put about like that. They had begged and worried people into taking them and they didn't turn up. 39 12 01f & g

1940 11 15

Presentations. — On the occasion of their recent marriage, Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Paintin were the recipients of wedding gifts from the Congregational Church choir and Sunday School (Linton), where they have both rendered excellent service. The gifts included a silver tea service and an electric iron. On leaving the employment of Messrs. Chivers (Histon), where he has been for some nine years, Mr. Jack M. Woodford has been presented by his co-workers with an oak writing bureau and a standard electric lamp

1940 11 29

Awarded Bar to D.F.M.—A bar to the D.F.M. has been awarded to Sgt. Ernest William Gimson, of No. 107 Squadron, R.A.F. Gimson was born at Sawston, but his home is at Babakin, Western Australia. Before joining the R.A.F., he was a storekeeper's assistant. He was awarded his D.F.M. for gallantry in air operations. Sgt. Ernest Gimson attended the Linton schools for a number of years before he emigrated with his parents to Australia. His lively interest in the village has always been maintained as he had a number of pen friends with whom he corresponded regularly. His father, Mr. E. R. Gimson, served in the Great War, 1914-18, and afterwards during his service with Messrs. R. Holtum & Sons, took a very active interest in the Linton branch of the British Legion before leaving for Australia.

1941 03 14

Mr, G, D, Richardson.—The funeral of Mr. George Dennis Richardson, who died in Addenbrooke's Hospital, following an accident, took place at the Parish Church (Bartlow). Deceased had lived all his life in Bartlow, having worked on the Bartlow Hall estate since he was nine years of age. He belonged to one of the oldest families in Bartlow, and was greatly respected by all in the village. He will be sadly missed at the church, where he was so regular in attendance. The church was filled with friends, who had come to pay their last tribute. Among them were two members representing the Linton Lodge of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, of which deceased had been a life-long member and over 40 fellow-workers on the estate.

1941 03 28

A loss to Linton. — There was widespread regret when it became known at the weekend that Mr. F. D. Wood, Headmaster of the C of E School, would shortly be leaving Linton consequent upon his being appointed Headmaster of Eccles-hall (Staffordshire) Senior School. Mr. Wood succeeded Mr. A. Samuels as Headmaster on April 10, 1934 and he leaves at the end of the present term on April 10,

Diamond wedding.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Tofts, of 12 Malting Cottages, Linton, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding on Monday. They were married at Linton Parish Church on October 6, 1881, by the Rev. Hall. Mr. Tofts, who is 86, is a native of Linton, having been born at 3 Malting Cottages, while Mrs. Tofts, whose maiden name was Hannah Brown, was born in Morley's Yard, Sawston. She will be 86 in December. The old couple have lived in the same cottage during the whole of their married life, and Mr. Tofts probably set up a record by living in the same row of cottages for 86 years. They have lived a very active life, and Mr. Tofts is still able to "dig for victory" in his garden and his wife to do her own housework.

1942 03 06

Longevity of Unionism — in Linton there are several octogenarians, and many septuagenarians and a few nonagenarians. A well-known resident Mrs. T. T. Suckling, reached this latter goal, her 90th birthday, last Saturday, when she was the recipient of many congratulatory greetings telegrams, messages and gifts at her residence, Sunny side. Mrs. Suckling is well-known over a wide area as the widow of. Mr. T. T. Suckling, the highly esteemed local chemist for many years. Regular in her attendance at the Congregational Church, where she has rendered splendid service for many years, Mrs. Suckling also takes a lively interest in current affairs, and hopes to live to see the Allies victorious in their great struggle for freedom, and the blessings of peace return to this troubled world

1942 11 20

Birthday celebration - On Thursday, Mr. T. J. Tompson celebrated his 90th birthday (at Linton). A native of Bury St. Edmunds, Mr. Tompson lived for over 40 years in London, coming to reside in Linton some 14 years ago. Mr. Tompson has made many friends, and these numbering over 30, including a well-known local nonagenarian (Mrs. T.T. Suckling), were present at his residence, The Dial, Springfield, Linton, at a celebration reception and tea on Thursday afternoon to offer their felicitations.

1942 11 27

Market Banns at Linton. Linton market, 10 miles from Cambridge, is said to have been a favourite place for banns and even marriages of East Cambs couples (writes Watchman). Here, for example, is one of the entries in the Linton parish records - "10 January, 1656. Contract published between Richard Lofts, of Abington Parva, widower, and Mary Tilbrooke, of Castle Camps, widow, in this market Three Several Days, this being the last day of 'publishing.'" At the Restoration (1660), when all Acts of the Long Parliament passed after the trouble with the King were expunged from the Statute Book, the children born of these marriages were rendered illegitimate, but later on a special Act was passed to legitimise them.

1942 12 12

Theft of food from airfield, trial at Linton – 42 12 12

1943 12 17

Exhibition. — An exhibition, featuring old mills and milling of Cambridgeshire, held at the Linton Village College from November 29 to December 10, was most interesting. The organisers were indebted to the Cambridge Folk Museum for many of the interesting relics displayed.

1944 01 07

Well done, schools. — In connection with the National Savings Association the Linton Schools head the list in the half-yearly returns of the South Cambridgeshire area. Having topped the list before, the junior schools, on this occasion, with £775 13s. 6d. to their credit raised considerably more than double the amount of any other village. The Linton Village College, in spite of the fact that a number of the students save in their home villages, stepped up their amount to £481 16s., the second highest in the area. The grand total was £1,257 9s. 6d.

1944 06 16

Schoolboys With Cordite.—Two schoolboys, who set light to some cordite in an air raid shelter and so caused burns to some other children, one of whom had to be taken to hospital, appeared at juvenile court at Linton on Wednesday. They admitted stealing the cordite, the property of the War Department, valued at 1s. The boys, aged 12 and 13 respectively, were each given a good character, and after they had promised not to do anything the kind again, were placed on probation for two years

1944 06 23

Wild Flower Show. For the second year in succession, Miss M. Purkis, with the support of the teaching staff of the Junior School (Linton) and friends of the late Dr. W. M. Palmer, has made efforts to resuscitate the annual wild flower show. This year there were over 120 entries, including a few from the Village College. Some really fine collections were on view. In presenting the prizes at the show, Mr. E. W. Bullman warmly commended Miss Purkis and her helpers and spoke of the generosity and very keen interest of the late Dr Palmer when the show was held at his residence, Richmonds, for so many years.

1944 09 01

Cambs Police Changes. The retirement on August 31 of two members of the Cambs County Police Force has meant promotions and a reshuffle. Those who retire, both after 25 years' service, are Supt. Frank Housden of Newmarket, and Sergeant C. Gilby, of Bottisham. Inspector L. A. Unwin, of Newmarket, will succeed the superintendent, having been appointed temporary superintendent. Sergeant Walter Leach, of Linton, becomes temporary inspector, while Detective Constables F. W. G. Fouracre and F. G. Brown, both at present attached to headquarters, have been appointed to the rank of temporary sergeant. P.c. Miller, of Waterbeach, will be transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department at Headquarters.

1944 11 03

Education Sunday, — Sunday was observed at the Congregational, Church (Linton) as a day of prayer for the great work of education. In the course of his sermons, the Rev. J. S. Wilson emphasised the value of religious instruction in the schools, and welcomed the emphasis given by the Education Act to worship and Bible teaching which is to be provided in the curriculum of every school. Reference was made to the great loss which the whole country had sustained by the passing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose radiant faith, high courage and deep sincerity made him a truly great Christian leader.

1944 11 17

Longevity.—A well-known and highly esteemed resident, Mr. T. J. Tompson, of the Dial, Linton, celebrated his 92nd birthday on Sunday. He is regular in his attendance at the services at the parish church and a welcome visitor when he calls daily on his friends and fellow parishioners.

1945 04 06

Salvage. The hon. local salvage organiser (Mr. E. W. Bullman) reports that over two tons of waste paper and cardboard was sent from Linton last week, also 3 cwt. of bones. Waste paper and bones are still urgently needed by the Ministry of Supply to aid victory in the war effort,

but rubber, tins and scrap metal must not be dumped in the Market Place. All rubbish of this kind must be put out by the householder when the monthly collection of house refuse is made.

1945 05 11

Stack Fires. On Tuesday the N.F.S. were called out to deal with numerous stack fires outside Cambridge, mainly caused by VE-Day celebrations. The areas affected were Bourn, Toft, Gransden, Linton, Foxton, Wrestlingworth and Comberton. In some villages watch was kept by the N.F.S. to prevent the fires from spreading.

1947 03 14

Cambridge has been hit today by some of the worst flooding for 30 years. The rapidly rising and flowing river has invaded riverside homes, Midsummer Common and other open spaces are flooded, there have been fears for the safety of Silver Street Bridge, and there is no sign of any diminution of the abnormal flow. There is an unconfirmed report that the Byron's Pool sluice has broken, and Grantchester Meadows and the "Backs" are completely under water. Silver Street was closed to all traffic during the morning. There were fears that the rush of water would seriously affect the foundations of the bridge. Street lighting was switched on in Linton when residents of houses in Meadow Lane and Chapel Terrace made a hurried evacuation of their waterlogged homes. The water rose to well over knee-deep but was subsiding this morning. At Sawston the sub-power station was marooned and electricity was cut off this morning. The Great North Road beyond Brampton is under water and the A.A. scout at Brampton cross roads was "up to his knees" at his post this morning

1947 11 13

There is a need for part-time nurses in Cambridgeshire and a campaign to recruit them is to be launched. Fulbourn was described as being "in a dangerous position" and one of the main difficulties mentioned by the Matrons of hospitals in the area was getting people for night and weekend work. Asked for their views Mrs Ditchburn said: "We at the County Hospital are very fortunate. We are well staffed and have our full complement". Mrs Mace explaining the position at Chesterton said approximately a third of the present staff was part time, which meant the night, weekend and early morning duties fell to the permanent staff. Mrs Bradley said that Linton was only one short of the full complement. At Fulbourn they had 32 permanent and 27 part time nurses to look after 528 patients

1948 05 11

The watching eyes of Britain's air defence went into action on Sunday in the biggest-scale Royal Observer Corps activity in the district since the war. Observer posts were manned at Cherry Hinton, Linton, Caxton, St Ives, Abbots Ripton, Littleport and elsewhere following the movements of jet fighters, Spitfires, Lancaster and Lincoln bombers and other types of aircraft numbering over 100 aircraft put up by the RAF. At Linton I found the observers proud of their post, built at their own expense by their own labours during the war

1948 06 15

One of the worst storms ever witnessed by Linton residents resulted in several houses being flooded there yesterday, and one of the roads being partially blocked by a huge mound of earth which was swept down from the fields through a hole which had been torn in the bank. There was a terrific cloudburst about 7.30pm followed by torrential rain. Owing to the flooding of several council houses on the Balsham Road the Linton National Fire Service were called out and spent 3½ hours in the cellars of half a dozen houses pumping out water which was about 8 foot deep

1948 07 02

What might be termed the swan-Song of the Cambridge County Council Public assistance Committee took place at Shire Hall. In common with many other similar committees its duties will be taken over by the Ministry of Health on 5th July. The chairman, Mrs Mellish Clark,

said that at the County Hospital Mill Road they decided to develop the maternity work, to close the casual wards and move the nursery children out to Linton. At Chesterton Hospital they had built a new casual ward, but when the war came these wards were converted by the additional of hospital beds and were being so used at the present time. At Linton they had built a Nurses Home but as there was no proper sanitation at Caxton they had decided to pull it down

1948 09 24

The forthcoming Territorial Army recruiting campaign will include women as well as men. We prefer to think of them as A.T.S., and to refer to them under a title to which they brought so much credit during the war. What is being formed in Cambridge is E Company no1 (eastern) group which will, presumably be very similar to its "Mother" unit, formed at Cambridge in 1938 - a general duties company. A local Commander is a great asset to any Territorial Unit and E Company have secured Miss A.M. Hales, who was born in Linton

1948 12 09

Fifteen leading hospitals in the Cambridge area – including Saffron Walden, Linton, and St Neots – will be administered by a new management committee operating from permanent headquarters at Newmarket White Lodge Hospital – the main portion of which was constructed during the war as an emergency hospital. It will become a full-scale general hospital with one of the finest outpatients departments in the country.

1949 02 04

An inquiry into a proposed sewerage disposal scheme for Linton was told that piped water was afforded in 1935 with a condition that a scheme for sewage would be proceeded with within five years, but the war stopped it. Sanitary conditions were little different from those existing in 1874 notwithstanding the fact that a number of council houses had been built, there was a village college, and a hospital with 168 beds. No collection of night soil is made by the sanitary authority; the onus of disposal rests upon the householders and constitutes a very real hardship.

1949 04 13

Three families were rendered homeless when fire swept through the thatched roofs of two 300-year-old cottages in Linton and spread to a tiled house adjoining. The cottages were converted many years ago out of Little Joiners farmhouse, which was built in 1651. It is believed that a spark from a chimney fire started the blaze. Some distance away are Messrs Holttum's premises where paint is stored. Paintwork on the outside of this building was blistered by the heat but firemen stopped the flames from spreading to it.

1949 04 26

With its cold grey stonework glittering in the rays of the brilliant sun Linton war memorial was unveiled for a second time. On the first occasion, after the 1914-18 war, 46 names were inscribed on it and on Sunday when the Union Jack fell from the memorial at the touch of Mrs E. W. Morley, there were revealed a further 13 names of men who died in the 1939-45 war. Several hundred villagers gathered around the memorial situated in the graveyard on a little mound overlooking the village. Although it was a solemn occasion there were splashes of colour from the summer dresses of the women.

1950 02 16

Although surveys have been made and plans drawn up the South Cambs RDC cannot now go ahead with its sewerage scheme for Linton. The Ministry of Health has informed the council that owing to the need for a reduction in capital expenditure it had been decided to defer the scheme. "It is most depressing" said the chairman of the council. Approval had originally been given but the war had prevented the scheme from being carried out.

1950 02 27

Four firemen suffered superficial injuries when the Linton fire tender in which they were riding overturned into a ditch when on the way to deal with a chimney fire at College Farm, Horseheath. The accident followed a violent skid on the icy roads. The injured were Firemen Leonard Morley, J. Morley, Noakes and Gurr. The officer in charge went on to the fire by motorcycle. The fire engine was not badly damaged, but a pump trailer which had been pulled at the rear will require extensive repairs

1950 07 03

Several properties changed hands at auction. The Station Garage, Linton, sold at £2,750. Nos.54 Herbert Street & 231 Victoria Rd, Cambridge, made £1500 and £1,110 respectively. No.91 Mawson Road, Cambridge, sold for £900 and no.8 Selwyn Gardens was withdrawn at £5,750 and is now for sale by public treaty

1950 08 04

South Cambs RDC considered whether more council houses should be built with less amenities, or less houses will the full amenities required by the Minister of Health. On the one hand the Ministry say houses cannot be built until there is a proper sewage scheme. But on the other they oppose such a sewage scheme for Linton. The conflict was described as “absolutely imbecile” and “scarcely credible”

1952 04 05

Everyone in Linton is talking about Arthur Starling, a retired coachbuilder who lives alone in a dusty, deserted-looking house in the High Street. When he collapsed and was taken to Linton Hospital neighbours investigated his dingy living room. They found a barrel cracked and full of woodworm – and silver coins, six hundredweight of them. In another box were golden sovereigns and bank notes, some no longer legal tender, total value £4,000. Arthur has recovered and gone home but his money was handed over for safe deposit in one of the village’s “Fridays only” banks. Meanwhile his shop still looks deserted and gaunt; the front door has not been opened for years and the windows are so dirty they may have been made of opaque glass.

1952 05 20

Known throughout Cambridge as “Lightning”, 78-years-old Ernest Siggers, a former well-known local news vendor has died. He lived the life of a recluse. The only time his neighbours in Fitzroy Street ever took any notice of him was just before he went to Linton Hospital in 1948. On that occasion he lit an explosive flu cleaner to clear the chimney of soot. It cleared the soot all right. And early cleared the flat and its contents too.

1952 12 18

Following an inspection by South Cambs R.D.C. of some “no fines” concrete houses they recommend the erection of 100 such houses in Sawston, and 50 in Duxford, Linton and Bassingbourn. The houses were comfortable to live in and of a smaller area than the type of house they had been building. They will not have to find any labour for erection as the firm will supply the men who will probably be billeted in the Trumpington National Service Hostel

1953 03 05

Linton Lime and Chalk Company appealed against a County Council refusal to allow the construction of houses for their workers on land along the front of the pit. About 20,000 cubic yards were dug from the pit each year & if it were not possible to build houses they would cease working. But the County said that other accommodation would be just as suitable and the firm was trying to secure permission for residential development so they could sell and secure financial benefit. Noise, dust and the general position of the site outside the planning scheme boundary made it unsuitable for residential purposes.

1953 07 30

South Cambs RDC agreed to borrow £310,360 needed for a comprehensive water scheme designed to supply 17 parishes. At present the east area receives its piped water from Linton and the western area from the village of Croydon. The problem was to find a means of supplying the villages in the centre where eleven of the parishes including Barrington, Duxford, Fowlmere, Foxton, Shepreth and Whittlesford have no piped water at all. A bore was sunk at Dottrell Hall, near Fowlmere, and they were rewarded with a source which will yield a million gallons a day.

1953 12 11

Linton cricket club proudly celebrated their centenary surrounded by relics of days gone by. Mr S.A. Taylor recalled when the football club shared the same ground & Mr Chalk reminisced on the games of his youth, including a visit to Duxford in 1896 when there were about 400 turkeys running about the cricket ground. T.F. Teversham said: "If your grandfathers turned up today in this lovely old town all they would miss would be the tinkle of the sheep's bells. I am pleased to see you are still free from the clutching hands of the interfering busybodies of the Town and Country Planning"

1954 03 05

An application by the owner of the Mountford Café, Horseheath for a licence to serve beer with meals was refused. He had to deal with about 50 meals even in a slack period, and there was a big demand for alcoholic refreshment. The other public houses could not accommodate the number of coaches he did. But the manager of Benskin's Brewery said they proposed to make extensive alterations to the Red Lion public house and they served snacks; children could either stay in the coaches or play on the lawn. The landlord of the Green Hill Inn, Linton said he could accommodate six coaches and there was a restaurant opposite which could take four.

1954 07 17

There were strong protests at plans for new offices at Shire Hall Cambridge. The new building would contain Assize and Quarter Sessions courts, offices and accommodation for the County Library. The courts at Linton, Caxton, Melbourn and Bottisham were 'shockers', housed in old police stations and the magistrates would be only too happy to do their work in an up-to-date building. Architects had strongly advised against cheese-pairing costs of the assembly hall: Cambridge's lovely college buildings had been the best and had stood the test of time and the costs of labour and materials were rising. But a new plan for one-tier local government might mean the doom of County Councils and the scheme should be deferred.

1955 05 23

Linton's new fire station has all 'mod cons' to delight a fire fighter with a huge shining red fire engine replacing the old ex-Army lorry and trailer they used until a few days ago. Although the firemen work in places scattered throughout the village they can be on their way to a fire three minutes after receiving a distress call. When the County Council took over the old National Fire Service in 1948 it was in a moribund condition but a lot of money has been spent in modernisation and the new station is much better than the previous old makeshift one. 55 05 23b

1955 08 04

A Linton timber merchant told the bankruptcy court that he had started as a haulage contractor in 1942 and done well carting sand and gravel to aerodrome sites. When that stopped in 1945 he was in charge of the saw mills at Linton until a serious accident to his left hand left him unable to work for nearly two years. Later he dealt in pit timber for the Coal Board but had to install new sawing machines at a cost of £700 on hire-purchase. Last year he was disqualified from driving and ceased trading the same day. 55 08 04b

1955 08 04

A ten-year old boy from No.7 hut, Carlton Green was drowned when he went, with other children, swimming in an emergency water tank at the old W.A.A.F. site at Weston Colville. The Fire Brigade was called and recovered the body after pumping the water from the tank. The coroner will hold an inquest at Linton police station. 56 08 04b

1957 01 17

The "Dolphin" pub at Linton has closed as it would cost too much to put in a new bar, sewage system and hot-and-cold water. It comes as a blow to licensees Annie Kidman and her bachelor brother Fred. Their father Alfred took it in 1896 after eight years at the "Axe and Straw" in High Street. They will continue to live at the premises; Annie has converted one of the rooms into a confectionery shop and Fred will continue to keep the hardware store in the village. 57 01 17

1957 03 14

Waging a constant battle against rabbits has proved profitable to Gerald Fairey who farms 2,000 acres at Linton. One rabbit can breed 200 progeny in a season but farmers get 50 per cent grants to destroy them. He is using gassing methods, then destroying the burrows to see they are not reinfested. Over 400 rabbits were discovered in one small area of land. 57 03 08

1957 03 14

Gilbert and Gladys Bradley were appointed to Linton Hospital in 1939 and during their long stay have seen many changes. Very few of the old patients know of the impending departure of their beloved Master and Matron – many of them call Mrs Bradley 'Mother'. Telling them will be one of the most difficult tasks of Gilbert's 40-years work in the medico-social services. 57 03 14

1957 05 02

Linton football club results – 57 05 22

1957 07 01

Master and matron of Linton hospital retire – 57 07 01c

1957 09 30

Cottenham's new fire station is the third to be opened by the County Council since 1948, following Linton and Soham. They also have a new fire engine with four-wheel drive, now all that is needed is a drill yard and training tower. 100 years ago the village had its fire brigade with an appliance pulled by horses. Now they have the most modern machinery manned by volunteers who could be called away from their work at any minute. 57 09 30 & a

1958 05 05

An extra storey was urgently needed at Shire Hall, councillors were told. In the Treasurer's Department the staff were sitting on top of one another. In the Registrar's Office, people had to wait in a passage if there was a wedding on. And the County Archivist, who really needed four rooms, had only one. But at Linton Hospital they had been asked to economise and the cost of the new Shire Hall must not interfere with works of that kind. They voted to go ahead. 58 05 05 & b

1958 06 20

A new 43-foot tower was opened at Linton Fire Station, marking a new development in the training of the county's retained firemen. It will solve three problems faced by rural firemen - lack of hose-drying facilities – all are at present dried in Cambridge - lack of ladder practice and poor siren coverage and make country fire stations far more self-contained and more effective. 58 06 20b

1958 07 16

Linton Hospital was formerly a workhouse but it is amazing what can be done to brighten such a place. Masses of vivid flowers in the garden detract from the austere front and the high walls separating each of the four quadrangles have been taken down to knee level. The corridors are decorated in gay colours with bright chintz curtains and the small paned windows are being replaced by large airy ones. The one-time long dormitories have been split up, where possible, into bedrooms. There are televisions and bright bedspreads and residents seem happy and contented. 58 07 16

1958 09 06

Theft from Linton church – 58 09 06

1959 01 02

Cambridgeshire Football Association was launched on 24th January 1884 at a meeting in the Guildhall. A trial game was organised between two teams selected from Old Perseans, Modern Perseans and Cassandra on one side and the Granta, Rovers, Printers and Albert on the other. Newmarket, Linton, Sawston Swifts and Cam affiliated at the outset. In those days the game was controlled by two umpires, one in each half of the field. Should they disagree the matter was referred to a referee who sat outside the field of play. 59 01 02 & 59 01 06a

1959 01 23

The Green Hill Café at Linton is a popular resort of lorry drivers and now the owners want to rebuild. There would be complete garage facilities, catering for local agricultural needs, a more suitable café with better sleeping accommodation and a supply of diesel oil for lorries. It would have an access in the High Street which would vastly improve a dangerous corner where there had been 16 accidents in the past four years. 59 01 23a & b

1959 04 22

The 'Miss Cambridge 1959' contest promoted by Billy Pearce attracted ten entrants. Winner was Pauline Badcock from Cottenham, who is a punch card operator; second was Norma Bullen of Waterbeach, a bank clerk and third Frances May of Cambridge, an insurance company clerk. All three will go into the final to select 'Miss Cambridgeshire 1959' at Linton Village College. 59 04 22c

The Cambridgeshire Collection has more comprehensive cuttings files from this date

1960 01 07

South Cambs RDC are going into the 'houses for sale' business. They initially intended to use small sites away from Council house developments but now hope to build on land fronting the highway in existing estates at Babraham Road, Sawston and Symonds Lane, Linton as well as new sites at Duxford and Melbourn. They plan semi-detached houses with a garage to sell for £2,450. Mortgage repayments would be about three pounds a week. Applicants on the council's waiting list will be informed. 60 01 07a

1960 01 15

Linton – illustrated feature – 60 01 15 CIP

1960 04 08

Soon elderly couples will move into brand new bungalows on the Chalklands Estate at Linton to become the first tenants of a new housing welfare scheme. A dozen specially designed bungalows with long-burning stoves and an electric cooker have been built by the council in a pleasant spot on this hillside estate for the exclusive use of old people who might otherwise spend their last few years in hospitals and County Council homes. A resident warden will ensure they lead their own lives for as long as they can 60 04 08c

1960 04 29

"Men's plain socks knitted free" read an advertisement in this newspaper. It was placed by Mrs G. Bowen of 'The Place', Ickleton. This charming woman is 84 years old and loves knitting. During the war she knitted more than 550 pairs and currently finishes four pairs a month. She likes to read while she is knitting but has to concentrate on the heels and so leaves the turning to do until she is not wanting to read. She is always ready to help people and has fought many issues of importance such as council houses and water supplies. She has visited Linton Hospital every fortnight since 1920 taking a bundle of newspapers and magazines. 60 04 29a

1960 09 01

The Cambridge to Colchester railway line becomes a single track beyond Shelford and winds down the river Stour into Suffolk through a series of little country stations which make it one of the prettiest railway journeys in East Anglia. The canopied platforms of Linton, Haverhill, Sturmer, Stoke, Clare and Cavendish fit picturesquely into the landscape. A four-horned Jacob ram journeyed in the luggage van on its way to Wales to be crossed with a mountain sheep. Labelled, it travelled alone as a parcel. It was joined at Stoke by a bicycle and by a baby in her pram accompanied by her parents. But the guard said it was not big enough to carry all the parcels. 60 09 01b & c

1961 02 17

Competition between British Railways agricultural transport services has become increasingly fierce and many local farmers are faced with the difficult decision whether to transport their produce by rail, road or, in some cases, water. Gerald Fairey, a Linton farmer says there is far less difficulty in sending goods by road. And lorry drivers take more care with the handling of perishable goods than the railway. But hauliers cannot compete with the ridiculously low cut-rate prices charged by British Railways for the conveyance of goods. The new 'Fenland Freighter' diesel-hauled train offers door-to-door service and a big saving in time and cash 61 02 17c

1961 02 17

The Old People's Welfare Council believes the best thing for the elderly is for them to live independently as long as possible. But many cannot and there are an increasing number of people wanting care in their old age. The main problem is finding suitable premises to make into old people's homes. In 1948 the County Council had to do with Linton Hospital and a few beds at Chesterton Hospital. Since then they have been modernised and improved. After the war buildings were very difficult to get because of competition from firms wanting office accommodation and the rising cost of land. The first new home was The Grove, Fordham in 1951, followed by Willingham House and in 1956 Primrose Croft was adapted to take 35 elderly residents. The future plans are to erect purpose-designed buildings 61 02 17b

1961 03 28

Linton parishioners have sent a petition to Ernest Marples, Minister of Transport, demanding a by-pass. There was continuous traffic through the village, especially in summer when motorists were travelling to the coast. In addition heavy lorries use the very narrow main street. This is only 13-feet wide and with some vehicles eight-feet wide they often get locked together or push pedestrians off the pavement. The County Surveyor said there were plans for a by-pass on the south side of the village which could be done in two stages as soon as money was available 61 03 28

1962 01 04

In this 'ice box weather' with power cuts, communication difficulties, fuel shortage, food scarcities and tragedies attributable to the weather, it becomes vital to prevent chaos spreading far and wide. One of the most important amenities is electricity. The blizzard kept

the Electricity Board's entire engineering staff busy deep in the night. There were no less than 20 breakages and no sooner did they repair one line at Linton than another break was discovered when they restored power. By Monday morning they had tramped and driven many miles to repair cables and were utterly exhausted. 62 01 04b

1962 02 14

Excavators and bulldozers from Dickersons Contractors of Cambridge are carrying out demolition work at Hadstock airfield near Linton. One hundred acres of concrete faced the contractors when they began. They have been digging up the runways for two years and the work is expected to take another two. A two-ton weight is repeatedly dropped on the runway to shatter the concrete then one of their concrete crushing machine moves 500 tons of material a day; its two arms pouring broken concrete on one heap and earth on another. 62 02 14a

1963 03 27

The Beeching report on the future of British Railways suggests the closing down of 19 stations in the Cambridge area – including three serving the main towns of Haverhill, Saffron Walden and St Ives. There would be the complete withdrawal of passenger services from branch lines, Cambridge-March, Gt Shelford-Marks Tey, Audley End & Bartlow lines. Amongst the village stations closed to passenger traffic would be Histon, Wimblington and Chatteris, Bartlow, Pampisford and Linton together with Soham and Fordham. Services from Black Bank would also cease 63 03 27

1964 01 08

Heavy scraping machines are busy on the one and a half mile Linton bypass which is expected to be completed by the Autumn. It is going to cost £100,000 and will divert traffic around the village's narrow streets. A bridge with a 35 foot span is also involved in the project which is mainly concerned with developing the 24 foot wide bypass running south of the village along the A604, crossing the B1052. 64 01 08

1964 01 18

Five mothers who live with their children in a hostel for the homeless at Linton are rebelling against the regulations. "This place is just like a Borstal" one said. Visitors are allowed only at certain times and the central heating is not warm enough after 8 p.m. It is an experiment and the only hostel of its kind in the county, providing temporary accommodation for the homeless with up-to-date kitchens and bathrooms and each family has a sitting room. Regulations had to be strict because the facilities had been abused, managers reply. The people are difficult to deal with, most are there because they were not able to manage their own affairs, but they won't abide by the rules. 64 01 18

1964 01 24

Linton Red Cross Hut is in a poor condition: the floor was dangerous, the roof needs repairs and toilet facilities should be improved. It was hardly used by the Red Cross but would make an ideal village hall and the British Legion would welcome having the hut for hire. K.D. Paintin, a local builder, said his grandfather had sold the hall to the Red Cross in 1949 for £100 and he would be interested in buying back the site. Villagers decided to try and buy it to avoid disruption of their social life 64 01 24a

1964 02 20

Mr George Seaman-Turner of Linton is believed to be the only pargeter in East Anglia. The best example of his work is on the front of his own 17th-century cottage where with the aid of a small trowel and pallet he has carefully engraved figures of birds and animals. For many years he has been a pig farmer but two years ago he developed his interest in pargeting and began renovating faded wall decorations. He prefers the original plaster and refuses to use a mould as it is too modern. 64 02 20

1964 09 05

Youngsters in the Youth Guild at Linton church are making their own coffee bar in the vicarage gardens, installing lighting and insulation. The wooden building was the church stand at the Royal Show in Cambridge three years ago. Now called the church pavilion it is used by the whole parish from the 'The Anglicans', church's own beat group, to the Mothers Union and bingo sessions. 64 09 05a

1964 09 05

Linton village college construction photo – 64 09 05b

1964 10 16

Linton village photo feature – 64 10 16e

1964 11 12

Work on new bridge over Granta at Linton to join up two main sections of village bypass – 64 11 12a

1965 03 04

Linton village college youth club to beat boredom in villages – 65 03 04c, d

1966 04 07

Impey new housing developments at Bartlow Road Linton, Lt Eversden & Balsham – colour advert – 66 04 07a

1966 04 16

Police sergeant Chater of Linton – memories - 66 04 16a

1966 06 16

Seaman-Turner exhibition of rare books at Linton – 66 06 16b

1972 09 08

Just in case The Bomb should ever drop, eight powerful new air raid warning sirens are to be installed in Cambridgeshire. Although few people ever see or hear them, the Home Office has about 22,000 warning points in the United Kingdom equipped with electric or hand sirens for air attack warnings and maroons for fall-out warnings. Now they are to be replaced by powerful compressed-air sirens which are much more efficient and much louder. The eight which are to be installed in Cambridgeshire will be at Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, Waterbeach Barracks, Oakington airfield, Great Wilbraham, the old Duxford airfield, Bassingbourn Barracks Lt Eversden & Linton

1974 10 12

Linton's new £80,000 primary school will get a second mobile classroom soon to ease overcrowding in classes. The school, which only opened its doors in September is too small, because the County Council did not have the money to build it to the size required for 200 pupils. The five classrooms have already been supplemented by the addition of one mobile classroom.

1976 06 02

When Mr Len Colvill first opened the door of his shop, horses and carts ambled by in Linton High Street and sugar, dried fruit and soap powder arrived by the sackful. The shop, which has remained an unchanged landmark in the village scene for 45 years is to close for good this week with the retirement of Mr Colvill and his wife Amy. Since 1931 customers have been served in an oak-beamed room stacked high with a complete range of household necessities.

1976 09 29

Wine production in the region will be more than doubled this year as vineyards reach maturity. But prospects of a vintage year have been shattered by the recent warm damp weather which has proved an ideal climate for diseases. At Linton Mr Sam Alper of Chilford Hall said they were now pressing the grapes. Mr G. Reece of Gamlingay Vineyard is finding the disease troubles "a bit of a nuisance". Mr Norman Sneesby thinks his vines at Wilburton will bring a yield of ten tons while Mr Ron Jeffries of Saffron Walden who started Wenden Vineyard four years ago hopes to improve on last year's 1,000 bottles from his one acre site.

1977 05 31

Flag-draped homes, street parties and organised sports and entertainments will herald the Queen's Silver Jubilee at Haverhill. All day Monday will be devoted to parties organised by streets and courts on the town's estates & Jubilee Day will be celebrated on the recreation ground with a Haverhill Girls v USAF basketball match and culminate with a torchlight procession and bonfire. At Linton there will be a wheelbarrow race, all old age pensioners will receive free food tokens and jubilee crowns will be distributed to schoolchildren. Horseheath will stage a village fair and a town crier in full period dress will herald the jubilee message around Wickambrook, visiting each of the eleven 'greens' which make up the parish.

1977 06 23

Roadmen on the A604 at Linton have been inconvenienced this week because thieves have walked off with their portable toilet – the second time it has happened. The toilet was beside the road one night. The next morning it had gone. Now they have called in Cambridge police in the hope they can trace the missing loo. The head of Cambridge CID, Det Supt Keith Hookham, said: "It's the second time in less than a month this thing has been nicked"

1978 04 22

Hildersham parish church has been the target for thieves for the second time in five months. Church officials unlocked the vestry and walked into chaos. Church documents and stationery had been scattered around the room. But the only item missing was the Victorian desk in which all the church papers had been kept. Last December two valuable 600-year-old wooden effigies were stolen when the church was forced into, but this time there was no damage. Earlier this week thieves walked out of Linton church in full view of three parishioners carrying three antique chairs

1978 07 01

A campaign to improve safety along the A604 has been turned down because of Government red-tape. The County wants all lorries for Harwich to be routed around Newmarket and Bury bypasses to Colchester instead of passing through Cambridge city centre and out along narrow winding roads to Linton and Haverhill. But despite the opening this autumn of the Northern By-pass designed to take heavy lorry traffic away from Cambridge, the Department of Transport is insisting that traffic for Harwich is still routed through the city. The road has already claimed four victims this year in Cambridgeshire and another seven in Essex

1979 03 21

Opposition to a bid by Pye of Cambridge to sell about six acres of land near their Cathodeon Crystals factory at Linton for 50 to 60 houses came to a head at a planning inquiry. The site is lying derelict and there was no prospect of it being developed as a factory extension because of difficulties in getting the right kind of skilled labour. It is surrounded by housing with schools and shopping conveniently near. A high proportion of their local employees came from the village but a lot had to be bussed in. Planners originally thought Pye might make the land available for council housing but their decision to redevelop has upset the Parish Council

1979 05 25

Regulars at the Green Hill in Linton chuckled scornfully about a dirty old pair of shoes found during renovation work on the pub's ancient fireplace. But the landlady, Pauline Adams was inclined to think there was something significant about the find, and she was right. Close inspection reveals that they are not actually a pair but are probably of 17th-century date and would have been placed there to ward off the evil eye of witches. Now they may help to attract customers; they are just the sort of historical oddity that drinkers like to come across in pubs – something to puzzle over with a pint.

1981 03 14

Police are trying to untangle the financial affairs of a Linton recluse who left a fortune when he died – possibly £100,000. The retired gardener lived the life of a miser and once told a friend he had to walk to work because he couldn't afford a new tyre for his bicycle. But all the time money was piling up in different bank and savings accounts. After his death police found bundles of money stored in tins and unopened wage packets lying in a trunk – but no will. 81 03 14

1981 09 05

Fire ripped through the Old Manor House at Linton, destroying most of the roof and part of one wing. The house, which dates back to the 17th century and stands on the old market green site in Green Lane, has been undergoing restoration. It has historical associations. One former owner, a tanner named Mallyon, reached home in the nick of time after reputedly being chased by Dick Turpin. 81 09 05

1983 05 31

Armed raiders who held up staff and customers at Barclays Bank in Linton escaped with several hundred pounds. A shotgun was fired during the raid but nobody was injured. The two robbers escaped in a blue Ford Cortina estate car. Police swooped on the village and set up checks as soon as the alarm was raised. 83 05 31 p1

1983 09 19

A tractor trailer loaded with straw smashed three first floor windows when it passed by the Bell Inn in High Street, Linton. Landlord John Pearman was sitting watching television when the steel side supports holding the straw hit the 400-year-old pub. Identical leaded windows will have to be used in repairs because the building is listed. The cost of the damage is unknown. 83 09 19 p3

1984 07 18

The Leys School is admitting girls to its sixth form for the first time this autumn. Amongst the first will be Julia Fairey from Linton and Helen Sherwood who is head girl at Soham Village College. Not all the boys are enthusiastic about their arrival and others are jealous of the shiny newness of their accommodation in a special boarding house with attractive study bedrooms. The girls will live in a semi-protected environment without the freedom of a sixth form college but in a more liberal atmosphere than the usual girls' boarding school. They will not be allowed out on weekday evenings without special permission. 84 07 18

1985 07 04

Villagers in West Wrating have been warned to use their local pub – or lose it. The landlord of the Chestnut Tree says the bowling club always visit the pub when it has a home match but when the Women's Institute go out, they go elsewhere. "They say it is because we don't have food, but we will do food for anyone who arranges it", he complains. In recent years the Chequers at Streetly End, the Horseheath Red Lion, the Princess of Wales in Linton and the Lamb and Crown in West Wrating have all shut. 85 07 04a

1985 09 01

At the sound of a high-pitched squeal from a paging device 12 Burwell men leave their workbenches, desks or beds and go off to face fire, flood, fumes or any one of a range of disasters. They are officially known as retained fire-fighters and are on call 365 days a year. Other areas such as Swaffham Bulbeck, Linton, Papworth and Kimbolton find it difficult to make up the minimum of a four-person crew and more recruits are needed. The annual retainer starts at £789 and there is a 'turn-out' fee of £5.83 for riding on the fire engine to an emergency call. 85 09 01a

1986 03 21

Motorists who shop around in Cambridge will find that a gallon of petrol varies in price by as much as 11p. Filling stations are awaiting instructions from oil companies on whether to slap on the Budget's 7½ p increase or whether to absorb it. The big Sainsbury's garage in Coldham's Lane is planning to hold pump prices at 173.7p for a gallon of four star. But The Granta Filling Station at Linton is being forced to follow BP's order and charge £184.4p 86 03 21

1986 09 05

Fire ripped through the Old Manor House at Linton, destroying most of the roof and part of one wing. The building, which dates back to the 17th century and stands on the old market green site in Green Lane, has been undergoing restoration. One of the former owners, a tanner named Mallyon reputedly reached home in the nick of time after being chased by Dick Turpin 86 09 05

1987 01 17

The Swan public house in Linton High Street last served drinks in 1984. During the boom years 1977-1981 it had a darts team, pool team, Country and Western music and Masonic dinners. Don Westlake, the last landlord, still has some of the copperplate written records of the old days when it was a coaching inn. But he never came across the ghost which villagers say passed through together with a ghostly cold draught from time to time. Now it has been converted into two cottages and looks from the outside more as an old coaching inn should. 87 01 17

1989 03 16

Police marksmen stormed a Linton bank where gunmen were believed to be holed up after a raid went wrong. More than 20 officers armed with Remington pump-action shotguns moved in after a three-hour siege at Barclay's Bank in the High Street. They used a hammer as a battering ram to break down the bank door before a police dog was sent in followed by four armed officers. A hostage was escorted out 89 03 16a-b